#144 / EL MEJOR NÚMERO FINAL DOBLE DE TODOS LOS TIEMPOS
INVINCIBLE™
EL FIN DE TODAS LAS COSAS
PARTE DOCE DE DOCE

INVINCIBLE

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MARKY, SÉ QUE YA NOTASTE QUE NO ERES COMO LOS OTROS CHICOS. TU MAMÁ ELIGIÓ EVITAR EL TEMA, PERO AHORA QUE SE HA IDO Y YA TIENES TUS PODERES... ES HORA DE QUE SEPAS LA VERDAD.
YA ME PARECES PARA MÍ PARA CONTARTE DE DÓNDE VIENES EN REALIDAD.

A MILLONES DE KILOMETROS DE AQUÍ, EN LO PROFUNDO DEL ESPACIO, HABÍA UN PLANETA LLAMADO VILTRUM.
TU ABUELO NACIÓ EN ESE PLANETA.
LOS VILTRUMITAS ERAN UNA RAZA VIOLENTA QUE VALORABA LA FUERZA POR ENCIMA DE TODO.
PARA DESHACERSE DE CUALQUIER DEBILIDAD, SE MASACRABAN ENTRE ELLOS HASTA QUE ENGENDRARON A LOS VILTRUMITAS DE HOY.
EVENTUALMENTE, LOS VILTRUMITAS SE UNIERON Y DIRIGIERON SU ATENCIÓN AL EXTERIOR, ESTABLECIENDO EL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA.
UN IMPERIO QUE CONTINUÓ EXPANDIÉNDOSE A UNA EXCEPCIONAL TASA POR CASI MIL AÑOS.
HASTA QUE SUS ENEMIGOS CREARON UN ARMA CAPAZ DE LASTIMARLOS.
CREARON EL VIRUS DEL AZOTE.

POR DÉCADAS, EL VIRUS ARRASÓ A LOS VILTRUMITAS.
CADA AÑO, TOMARÍA INCONTABLES VIDAS, YA SEA SUCUMBIENDO AL MISMO VIRUS, O SIENDO ASESINADOS EN EL DEBILITADO ESTADO CAUSADO POR SOBREVIVIR AL VIRUS.
LA TASA DE MUERTE CRECIÓ TAN ALTA, QUE SUS CUERPOS FORMARON UN ANILLO ALREDEDOR DEL PLANETA VILTRUM, CONVIRTIÉNDOSE EN UN MONUMENTO A LOS CAÍDOS.
AL FINAL, PERDIERON EL NOVENTA Y NUEVE COMA NUEVE POR CIENTO DE SU POBLACIÓN. DEJARON A LOS VILTRUMITAS AL BORDE DE LA EXTINCIÓN.
SIGUIÓ UN PERÍODO DE DISTURBIOS.
EL LÍDER VILTRUMITA, ARGALL, FUE ASESINADO. MÁS SOBRE ÉL LUEGO.
EVENTUALMENTE, UN NUEVO LÍDER SURGIÓ.
EL GRAN REGENTE THRAGG FUE CONVERTIDO EN GOBERNANTE HASTA QUE EL HEREDERO DE ARGALL PUDIERA ESTABLECERSE. ¿VES A DONDE VA ESTO?

AHÍ ES CUANDO SURGIÓ UN NUEVO PLAN PARA RECONSTRUIR AL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA.
SE ENVIARÍAN AGENTES, SOLOS, PARA VIVIR ENTRE LA GENTE DE MUNDOS ALIENÍGENAS, PARA VER SI ERAN... COMPATIBLES CON EL ADN VILTRUMITA.
FUE ESTA MISIÓN LA QUE TRAJO A TU ABUELO A LA TIERRA.
Y LLEVÓ A MI NACIMIENTO.
YO ERA COMO TÚ. NO TENÍA ***NI IDEA*** QUE ERA VILTRUMITA. HASTA QUE UN DÍA MI PADRE ME SENTÓ, IGUAL QUE YO A TI AHORA, Y ME EXPLICÓ TODO.
Y ME DIJO QUE TENDRÍA PODERES.
GRACIAS A DIOS, ÉL PUDO HACERLO ***ANTES*** QUE MIS PODERES ARRANCARAN... SUPONGO QUE FUI UNA ESPECIE DE RETOÑO TARDÍO.
UNA VEZ QUE TUVE MIS PODERES, TUVE MUCHAS AVENTURAS E HICE MUCHO BIEN COMO INVINCIBLE.
ES PROBABLE QUE PUEDAS LEER TODO TIPO DE COSAS SOBRE MÍ EN INTERNET.

TU ABUELO Y YO NO NOS ENTENDIMOS AL PRINCIPIO. ÉL QUERÍA CONQUISTAR ESTE PLANETA PARA EL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA, PERO EVENTUALMENTE ENTENDIÓ MI PUNTO DE VISTA.
JUNTOS, CON LA AYUDA DE OTROS, DERROTAMOS A THRAGG Y DESCUBRIMOS QUE TU ABUELO ERA EL LEGÍTIMO HEREDERO DE ARGALL, Y EL VERDADERO LÍDER DEL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA.
SU GOBIERNO FUE UN LARGO TIEMPO DE PAZ. ÉL PRESIDIÓ SOBRE LOS VILTRUMITAS MIENTRAS VIVÍAN EN LA TIERRA EN SECRETO, ENCARGADO DE UN IMPERIO EN CRECIMIENTO.
Y EN UNA VUELTA DE LA VIDA... ESTO LLEVÓ A TU NACIMIENTO.
COMO MUESTRA DE COMPASIÓN, TU ABUELO PERMITIÓ VIVIR A THRAGG, PERO ESTO EVENTUALMENTE LLEVÓ A SU MUERTE.
AUNQUE PUDE VENGARLO.
AHORA, SOY EL LÍDER DEL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA, Y HE ELEGIDO LIDERAR CON EL EJEMPLO DE MI PADRE. MOSTRARLE EL POTENCIAL EN NOSOTROS A NUESTRA GENTE.
PARA *PROBAR* QUE PODEMOS SER UNA FUERZA PARA EL BIEN EN EL UNIVERSO--Y NO SOLO LA VIOLENTA RAZA CONQUISTADORA QUE CASI NOS LLEVA A NUESTRA DESAPARICIÓN.
PLANEO HACER DEL MUNDO UN LUGAR MEJOR... PARA TODOS LOS SERES VIVOS.

LAMENTO NO HABER ESTADO AHÍ PARA TI, MARKY. MI RELACIÓN CON TU MADRE ERA MUY COMPLICADA. LAMENTO QUE APENAS ME CONOZCAS.
ESTO ES MUY... DIFÍCIL PARA MÍ.
SCOTT ME DIJO QUE TODOS USTEDES SE VAN A QUEDAR, NO SE VAN A IR CON NOSOTROS CUANDO DEJEMOS EL PLANETA.
VOY A RESPETAR SUS DESEOS, PORQUE PIENSO QUE SI TIENES UNA VIDA COMO LA MÍA, AQUÍ, SERÁ BUENO PARA TI.
HAY TANTO QUE EXPERIMENTARÁS, HAY TANTO PARA APRENDER.
LAMENTO QUE NO ESTARÉ AQUÍ PARA ESO.
PERO SÉ QUE ESTARÁS EN BUENAS MANOS.
CUANDO LLEGUE EL MOMENTO, VAS A HACER MUCHO BIEN AQUÍ.

PERO ESTO NO ES EL ADIÓS. ESTARÉ DE REGRESO A LA TIERRA DE VEZ EN CUANDO.
TE ECHARÉ UN OJO.
...
MARKY, ¿ENTIENDES TODO ESTO?
...
WOW.
¿EN REALIDAD SOY UN ALIEN DEL ESPACIO?

LOS REBELDES RENDIDOS, EL REINO ASEGURADO... PERO TÚ... TÚ NO PUDISTE DETENERTE. DEBE SER VERDAD, LA MALDICIÓN DE TU PADRE... FLUYE POR TUS VENAS AHORA QUE NO ESTÁ VIVO PARA CONTENERLA.
LO SIENTO POR LO QUE HICE AQUÍ. PERDÍ EL CONTROL. LA IRA INTERIOR NO PUEDE SER CONTENIDA. YO, TAMBIÉN, DEBO BUSCAR OPONENTES DIGNOS HASTA QUE ENCUENTRE EL FIN.
DICEN QUE FUE UN VILTRUMITA EL QUE PUDO VENCER A TU AMADO PADRE EN BATALLA.
¿VILTRUMITA?
ENTONCES YA SÉ QUIEN TRAJO ESTÁ MALDICIÓN SOBRE MÍ. ESTÁ DECIDIDO. NO PARARÉ HASTA QUE CADA VILTRUMITA EN EL UNIVERSO ESTÉ MUERTO...
...O LO ESTÉ YO.

NO SÉ SI PUEDA HACER ESTO.
¿QUÉ?
TENGO UNA NAVE ESPACIAL LLENA DE ALIENS SÚPER PODEROSOS... ***ESPERÁNDOME*** EN ÓRBITA PARA QUE ME UNA A ELLOS ASÍ PODER COMENZAR ESTA... GRAN MISIÓN.
PERO VEO A ESTE NIÑO AQUÍ Y NO PUEDO EVITAR PENSAR... ¿ME ***NECESITA?***
UN MONTÓN DE GENTE TE NECESITA, MARK. INCLUYENDO CADA HOMBRE, MUJER Y NIÑO EN ESTE PLANETA.
PERO NECESITAN QUE HAGAS LO CORRECTO PARA ***ELLOS***, NO LO QUE TE HAGA SENTIR BIEN.
NO CREO QUE EL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA PERTENEZCA A LA TIERRA... Y TÚ HAS... HAS TOMADO TU DECISIÓN.
NO ME LO HAGAS MÁS DIFÍCIL, MAMÁ. NO ELEGÍ UNO O EL OTRO. ELEGÍ LO QUE ES MEJOR PARA AMBOS... Y ***QUERÍA*** LLEVAR A SCOTT Y MARKY Y SU HERMANA CONMIGO.
NO PUEDO TOMARLOS PRISIONEROS, NO PUEDO ***OBLIGARLOS*** A VENIR CON NOSOTROS.
VE. SALVA AL UNIVERSO. HAZ LO TUYO. ÉL TIENE AL ÚNICO PADRE QUE CONOCIÓ, Y AHORA ME TIENE A MÍ. ESTÁ EN BUENAS MANOS.
Y TAMPOCO ES QUE NO VOLVERÁS A LA TIERRA. TERRA VA A NECESITAR VISITAR A SU ABUELA.
Y ***QUIEN*** SABE... QUIZÁS EN QUINCE AÑOS MARKY TE ESTARÁ RECORDANDO LO QUE ES SER HUMANO...
OH, DIOS... NO DIGAS ESO.

BUENO, GRACIAS POR DARME ALGO DE TIEMPO CON ÉL ANTES DE IRME. SI NECESITAN ALGO MIENTRAS NO ESTOY, CONTACTEN CON EL INMORTAL. ÉL ESTARÁ CUIDÁNDOLOS.
GRACIAS POR TODO, MARK. GRACIAS POR ENTENDER. SÉ QUE ESTO NO HA SIDO FÁCIL.
NO ME GUSTA LA IDEA DE DEJARLOS ATRÁS, PERO LA TIERRA QUIZÁS PUEDA USAR UN PAR DE VILTRUMITAS.
TÚ CUIDA DE TU PAPÁ Y DE TU HERMANA, ¿SÍ?
Y TRABAJA EN TUS PODERES. CUANDO REGRESE, QUIERO VER LO QUE PUEDES HACER.
BUENO.
YO, EM...
ESTÁ BIEN.
VAMOS A ESTAR BIEN.
ES... PUEDES IRTE...
GRACIAS POR PONERME LOS PUNTOS SOBRE LAS ÍES. SIEMPRE FUISTE BUENA PARA ESO.
ESTE UNIFORME SE VE RIDÍCULO. NUNCA ME ACOSTUMBRARÉ A TI USANDO COSAS COMO ESTAS EN NUESTRO PATIO... ES RARO.
VUELVE PRONTO, ¿SÍ?
LO HARÉ. QUIERO DECIR, LA TIERRA TIENE LOS MEJORES CÓMICS.
TE AMO, MAMÁ. ¿SEGURA QUE NO QUIERES VENIR CON NOSOTROS?
LA TIERRA ES MI HOGAR. LOS PLANETAS ALIENÍGENOS SON DIVERTIDOS... PERO NO SIN TU PADRE.
AQUÍ PERTENEZCO.
BIEN, ES BUENO SABER QUE LOS VIGILARÁS.
BIEN, ENTONCES... BUENO...
MARK, POR FAVOR. ESTO NO ES UN ADIÓS PARA SIEMPRE... PUEDES IRTE.

BUENO... SE FUE. SOLO QUEDAMOS NOSOTROS, CHICOS.
ESTOY CONFUNDIDO. ¿AÚN ERES MI PAPÁ, O ES ÉL?
SIEMPRE HE SIDO TU PAPÁ. SIEMPRE SERÉ TU PAPÁ. ESO NO CAMBIA EN NADA.
AHORA TIENES UN PAPÁ EXTRA. EN EL ESPACIO.
PAPÁ ESPA-CIAL...
PAPÁ REAL.
VAMOS... DEBERÍAMOS DARLE A TU NUEVA ABUELA ALGO DE PAZ Y TRANQUILIDAD. VAMOS A CASA.

PD's COMICS
SASTRE
REYHER'S MUS
NO *QUERÍA* ROMPER SU TABLET. DIJE QUE LO SIENTO, ELLA ERA *TAN MALA.* ESTOY *FELIZ* DE QUE SE FUERAN.
NO SEAS TAN DURO CON TERRA, MARKUS. NO ESTÁ ACOSTUMBRA-DA A TENER HERMANOS CERCA. ¡DEBERÍAMOS ENVIAR A MOLLY CON ELLOS DE REGRESO POR UN PAR DE MESES, QUE VEA CUÁNTO LE GUSTA!
OH... ¡LO *ODIARÁ!*
¿QUÉ ES ESTE LUGAR? ¡ME PROMETISTE UNA SORPRESA, ABUELA! ¿VA A SER UNA SORPRESA DE *ROPA?* PORQUE, PUAJ.
ESTO TE VA A GUSTAR-- *TRANQUILO.*
DISCÚLPEME, PERO ESTAMOS BUSCANDO A *ART ROSENBAUM.* ¿ESTÁ HOY?
ART AÚN ES EL DUEÑO DEL LUGAR, PERO NO VIENE MUY SEGUIDO.
LE ASEGURO, PUEDO AYUDARLA CON *CUALQUIER COSA* QUE NECESITE.
¿PUEDE LLAMARLO? ESTO ES ESPECIAL, CREO.
A ART LE... LE GUSTARÍA HACER ESTO POR ÉL MISMO. *CRÉEME.*
NO SÉ... ES PROBABLE QUE NO VAYA A--
LLÁ-MELO.
CRÉAME.
ESPERA-REMOS.

OH... MI... DIOS...
ENTONCES ESTE ES... ¿TU NIETO?
ART, ES MI PLACER PRESENTARLE A MARKUS MURPHY, MI AMADO NIETO.
ES UN HONOR CONOCERTE, MARKUS. CONOCÍ A TU ABUELO... Y CONOCÍ A TU PADRE.
¿CÓMO LOS CONOCIÓ?
SI PUEDES GUARDAR UN SECRETO ENTRE NOSOTROS DOS...
...SOY EL TIPO QUE LE HACÍA SUS TRAJES.
¡OH, DIOS MÍO!
¡GRACIAS, ABUELA!
¡GRA-CIAS!
IMAGINÉ QUE YA TENÍAS EDAD. ESTOY ORGULLOSA DE QUE HAYAS ESPERANDO TANTO TIEMPO. TU TÍO OLIVER ERA SIGNIFICATIVAMENTE MÁS JOVEN QUE LO QUE ERES TÚ CUANDO COMENZÓ.
ME VOY A DIVERTIR CON ESTE...
SÉ EXAC-TAMENTE QUE HACER CONTIGO.

¡WAHOO!

¡OH, HOM-BRE!
¡PRIMERA PELEA!
¡PRIMERA PELEA!

¡THWOOM!
¡NOSOTROS NOS ENCARGAREMOS DE ESTO, CHICO! SI QUIERES VER-- SOLO QUÍTATE DEL MEDIO.
SOY DURO-- ¡YA LO VERÁN!
¡PUEDO AYUDAR!
¡¡KROOM!!

¡WRAMM!
¡SPAK! ¡SPAK! ¡SPAK!
¡ESTE CHICO TIENE ES-PÍRITU!
¡LAS GARRAS ESTÁN RECOR-TADAS, JOVEN!
¡WRAMM!
¡GRACIAS, CHICO PISTOLA!
¿¡WRATH?! ¿¡UNA AYUDITA?! ¡HAZ REACCIO-NAR A TU HERMANO!
¡VENGEANCE, POR FAVOR! ¡HAZ PERDIDO LA CABEZA! ¡USAMOS LA OSCURIDAD PARA QUE NOS DE PODER! ¡NO PUEDES PERMITIR QUE TE CONTROLE!
CORTA TU LAZO-- ¡LIBERA EL PODER ANTES QUE TE CONSUMA!
¡PUEDO VER DENTRO DEL VACÍO Y EL VACÍO ME CONTEMPLA! ¡SIENTO A MI CUERPO HIRVIENDO DE PODER!
¡PODER!
¡PODER!
¡PODER!

¡¡¡GRAAAAAAANGH!!!
¡¡¡AAAAAAAHHH!!!
¡WRAMM!
¿CASA? ¡¿ESTOY EN CASA?!
¡¿TIERRA?!
¿ESTOY VIVO? ESTOY--
¿DARKWING?
¡DARKWING--!

¿QUIÉN ES ESTE TIPO?
¿ES UN TIPO QUE CONOCEN, CHICOS?
¿ESTABA *DENTRO* DE ESE GRAN TIPO HORRIBLE?
DARKWING HA ESTADO PERDIDO DESDE LA INVINCIBLE WAR. CREÍMOS QUE ESTABA MUERTO.
LEÍ ACERCA DE LA INVINCIBLE WAR.
ESO FUE CUANDO UN GRUPO DE VERSIONES MALVADAS DE MI PAPÁ ATACARON EL PLANETA.
¿ERES EL HIJO DE INVINCIBLE?
SUPONGO QUE ESO EXPLICA EL TRAJE. ¿TE LLAMARÁS INVINCIBLE?
QUIZÁS EVENTUALMENTE... ¿KID INVINCIBLE POR AHORA? ¿SUPONGO?
NO HE PENSADO MUY BIEN ESO EN REALIDAD.
TENEMOS QUE PONER EN CONTENCIÓN A VENGEANCE ANTES QUE DESPIERTE... Y LLEVAR A DARKWING AL DOCTOR. GRACIAS POR TU AYUDA, KID INVINCIBLE.
LO HICISTE *BIEN*.

¡SCREEK! ¡SCREEK!
NO, CHAINSAW. PAPÁ TAMPOCO VA A ESTAR AQUÍ. HA SIDO BORRADO DEL MULTIVERSO.
YA NO... NO QUEDA NADA DE ÉL.
ESTA ES LA DIMENSIÓN DE SU MAYOR ENEMIGO... MARK GRAYSON.

ESTADOS UNIDOS
PENTAGONO
Estacionamiento por Atrás
VENGEANCE ESTÁ ENCERRADO. SU CONEXIÓN CON LA REALIDAD DE LAS SOMBRAS PARECE ESTAR CORTADA.
¿QUIÉN SABE SI ÉL Y SU HERMANA ESTABAN DRENANDO PODER DEL MISMO LUGAR DONDE DARKWING ESTUVO PERDIDO TODOS ESTOS AÑOS?
MUY LOCO.
SÉ QUE PUSE EN DUDA DE QUE SUMARAS A WRATH AL EQUIPO, PERO HA SIDO UNA BUENA ADICIÓN A LOS GUARDIANES. BIEN POR ESO.
AHORA, SI ME DIS-CULPAS...
GRACIAS, ME--
AMANDA, ESPERA. SI PUDIÉRAMOS HABLAR, ANTES DE QUE TE VAYAS. SOLO POR UN RATITO. ESTOY...
ESTOY EXTREMADA-MENTE SOLO.
TE GUSTA DECIRTE QUE HICISTE UN SACRIFICIO PARA SALVAR AL MUNDO, QUE ESTO TENÍA QUE HACERSE... Y TERMINASTE VIVIENDO EN UN TUBO DE NUEVO... SOLO, COMO UNA ESPECIE DE MÁRTIR.
LA VERDAD ES QUE ESTE ES EL MUNDO QUE QUERÍAS. ENFRÉNTALO.
LO HARÉ.

¿TERMINASTE LA TAREA? ¿LOS PLATOS? ¿EL CUARTO LIMPIO?
¡SIP, SIP Y SIP!
NO SÉ QUÉ TE TIENE DE TAN BUEN HUMOR HOY, PERO ME GUSTA.
¿ENTONCES PUEDO?
SÍ... VE POR TU "PASEO" NOCTURNO.
SOLO NO VUELES MUY LEJOS, HIJO.
AW, HOMBRE... ¿CUÁNDO VOY A TENER PODERES?

EY, ABUELO.
HOY ESTUVO GENIAL. LUCHÉ CONTRA UN GRAN SÚPER VILLANO POR PRIMERA VEZ.
TENGO UN TRAJE. ES ESTUPENDO. MUY PARECIDO AL QUE PAPÁ SOLÍA USAR.
TE GUSTARÍA... QUIERO DECIR, SI TE GUSTABA EL DE PAPÁ... NO SÉ.
NOLAN
GRAYSON
DESEO HABERTE LLEGADO A CONOCER. SÉ QUE HICISTE COSAS MALAS A VECES... PERO PAPÁ HABLA DE TI COMO SI FUERAS EL MÁS GENIAL.
MI PAPÁ REAL NO ES EL MAYOR FAN...
COMO SEA... PARECE QUE SOY EL NUEVO INVINCIBLE AHORA. LO QUE ES REALMENTE GENIAL.

SE SIENTE RARO, ESE NOMBRE... EN ESPECIAL PORQUE ES ALGO QUE SÉ QUE NO SOY.
MI PAPÁ ESTÁ POR AHÍ... ARREGLANDO EL UNIVERSO. PIENSO EN ESO SIEMPRE QUE MIRO HACIA LAS ESTRELLAS...
...PORQUE CADA PUNTITO DE LUZ EN EL CIELO ES UN LUGAR QUE EL **MEJORÓ**. MIRO ARRIBA... Y VEO **TODO** LO QUE HA HECHO.
ÉL ELIGIÓ **INVINCIBLE** PORQUE FUE ALGO QUE EL SINTIÓ QUE ERA.
YO LO ELEGÍ PORQUE ES ALGO QUE TENDRÉ QUE SER SI ALGUNA VEZ QUIERO HONRAR SU LEGADO...
...PORQUE RESULTÓ SER MUCHO **MÁS** QUE ESO.

¿A DÓNDE VAMOS?
A TODOS LADOS.

¡NO ES JUSTO!
PUEDO CUIDARLO-- PUEDO DARLE DE COMER-- ¡AHORA SOY RESPONSABLE! ¡TENGO OCHO AÑOS! ¿¡POR QUÉ NO PUEDO QUEDARME UNO?!
¡YA HEMOS DISCUTIDO ESTO! DESTRUIRÁ TU CUARTO-- ¡CAGA LAVA, LITERALMENTE!
¡YA SÉ CÓMO PELEAR!
Y EL GENERAL KREGG TE ENSEÑARÁ A LUCHAR MEJOR.
¡NO PUEDO MOVERME EN ESTE UNIFORME! ¡ESTO ES UNA PORQUERÍA!
¡LA ROMPIÓ! ¡MARKUS ES UN IDIOTA!
ODIO REGRESAR A LA TIERRA. ¡TODO AQUÍ ES ESTÚPIDO!
Terra
NO SEAS TAN DURA CON TU HERMANO-- NO SABÍA CÓMO FUNCIONABA.
¡ÉL NO ES MI HERMANO!

¡ESTAMOS AQUÍ AYUDANDO GENTE! ES LO QUE SE SUPONE QUE HACEMOS, ¿CIERTO? NO ME IMPORTA LO QUE HICIERON-- TENÍAN HAMBRE-- ESTABAN ASUSTADOS-- ¡ESTABAN MURIENDO!
¡MERECEN OTRA OPORTUNIDAD!
BUENO, BUENO-- CÁLMATE, Y LO SOLUCIONAREMOS.
¡TÚ ERES MI HIJA! ¡SOY EL EMPERADOR DE NUESTRA GENTE! ¡TIENES QUE SER UN MEJOR EJEMPLO, TERRA!
ESE CHICO ESTABA POR DEBAJO DE TI.
¡Y AL LADO Y ARRIBA Y DETRÁS DE MÍ!
¡NO QUERÍA DECIR ESO!
NI SIQUIERA... NI SIQUIERA SABÍA QUE TE HABÍAS ANOTADO PARA LA ORDEN DE CONSERVACIÓN.
ENVIÉ MI SOLICITUD BAJO UN NOMBRE FALSO. NO QUERÍA NINGÚN FAVORITISMO A CAUSA DE QUIEN ES MI PADRE.
¡ESTOY TAN EMOCIONADA! UNA VEZ QUE COMPLETE EL PROGRAMA, ESTARÉ VIAJANDO DE PLANETA EN PLANETA, ASEGURÁNDOME QUE CUALQUIER RECOLECTOR SOLAR O TURBINA OCEÁNICA O SINTETIZADOR DE COMIDA ESTE TRABAJANDO APROPIADAMENTE Y MEJORANDO VIDAS.
¡Y PUEDO USAR LO QUE QUIERA!

MUCHOS ME HAN PREGUNTADO PORQUE HE ROTO LA TRADICIÓN Y NO USO UN BIGOTE VILTRUMITA CEREMONIAL.
PARA MÍ, SIEMPRE HA SIDO UNA SEÑAL DE NUESTRO MUNDO NATAL, EL PLANETA *VILTRUM*.
Y NO SOY DE VILTRUM. SOY DE LA TIERRA.
COMO MUCHOS DE USTEDES SABEN, NUESTRO PLANETA NATAL FUE DESTRUIDO POR MÍ, MI PADRE Y THAEDUS. ALGUNOS DE USTEDES ESTUVIERON *AHÍ*.
NO ESTUVIMOS DEL MISMO LADO ESE DÍA. MUCHAS COSAS HAN CAMBIADO DESDE ESE DÍA.
ESPERO QUE *CONTINÚEN* CAMBIANDO.
PARA ESE FIN, ME GUSTA PENSAR QUE LAS VIEJAS COSTUMBRES MURIERON CON VILTRUM. NO TENEMOS QUE SEGUIR HACIENDO LAS COSAS COMO SIEMPRE HAN SIDO HECHAS.
AFEITO MI CARA EN HONOR A *ESO*. EN HONOR A NUESTRA NUEVA COSTUMBRE... UNA COSTUMBRE DE *PAZ*.

HEMOS HECHO UN LARGO CAMINO, ¿O NO?
SÍ.
RECUERDO CUANDO NOS ENCONTRAMOS POR PRIMERA VEZ-- COMO DETUVISTE NUESTRA PELEA... COMO ME HABLASTE. COMO RESOLVIMOS NUESTRO CONFLICTO... PACÍFICAMENTE.
CASI PODRÍAS DECIR QUE ESE MOMENTO... TODO DESDE ENTONCES... FUE UN PRECURSOR DE LO QUE ESTÁS HACIENDO AHORA, CON TU GENTE.
ES NOTABLE, EN VERDAD LO ES.
NO CREO QUE ME LLAMARAS AQUÍ POR CUMPLIDOS, ALLEN.
DEJA DE PERDER MI TIEMPO.
TUS ACCIONES SE ESTÁN VOLVIENDO UN PROBLEMA. ESTÁS ELIMINANDO AMENAZAS, CLAUSURANDO RAZAS HOSTILES... TRAYENDO PAZ A CUADRANTES DE LA GALAXIA QUE HAN ESTADO EN GUERRA POR EONES. ES SORPRENDENTE...
PERO HA LLEVADO A MUCHOS PLANETAS A QUERER DEJAR LA COALICIÓN. NO SIENTEN QUE NOS NECESITEN PARA SEGURIDAD... NO SIENTEN QUE LA COALICIÓN TENGA QUE EXISTIR EN ABSOLUTO.
QUIZÁS NO TENGA.
OH, DIOS...
TEMÍA QUE FUERAS A DECIR ESO.

OH, DIOS...
EN VERDAD VAS A...
...VAS A CAMBIAR TODO, ¿VERDAD?
¿SI MEJORA AL MUNDO?
SÍ, LO HARÉ.
MALDICIÓN.
QUIZÁS ESTAMOS MEJOR SIN UNA COALICIÓN DE PLANETAS.
CUANDO ESA COALICIÓN DRENA RECURSOS DE LOS PLANETAS MÁS POBRES Y LOS MUEVE A MUNDOS HINCHADOS Y SOBRE POBLADOS COMO TALESCRIA PARA MANTENERLOS A FLOTE... SÍ.
ESTO PODRÍA HABER SIDO MUCHO MÁS FÁCIL SI SOLO HUBIERAS HABLADO CONMIGO.

GRACIAS POR ACCEDER A ENCONTRARNOS, URSAAL.
LA GUERRA SE TERMINÓ. TENGO TODO EL TIEMPO DEL MUNDO.
Y HE ESTADO ESPERANDO PASAR TIEMPO EN ESTE MUNDO POR AÑOS. ESCUCHÉ QUE LOS OCASOS SON *HERMOSOS*.
ERES BIENVENIDA A QUEDARTE EN MI CASA. TENGO ESPACIO. ¿CÓMO LE VA A MI PADRE?
DEBERÍAS HABLARLE TÚ MISMA, TERRA. ÉL NO TE CULPA POR NO PARTICIPAR DE LA GUERRA.
ÉL NO ES ASÍ.
ESE ES MI PUNTO. LA GUERRA CONTRA LA COALICIÓN VA EN CONTRA DE TODO LO QUE PENSÉ QUE REPRESENTABA. LOS CAMPEONES DE LA PAZ NO COMIENZAN GUERRAS.
LA ORDEN DE CONSERVACIÓN HA ESTADO HABLANDO DE SEPARARSE DEL IMPERIO POR ESTO...
...Y CREO QUE VOY A *APOYAR-LOS*.
LO QUE ESTABA HACIENDO LA COALICIÓN ESTABA *MAL*. *ELLOS* COMENZARON ESTA GUERRA, NO TU PADRE. TIENES QUE HABLAR CON ÉL ANTES QUE SE VAYA DE LAS MANOS. LA ORDEN TE RESPETA... PUEDES *DETENERLO*. TIENES QUE HACERLO.
NO PUEDES PERMITIR QUE EL IMPERIO SE FRACTURE POR ESTO.
MI PADRE TIENE QUE SABER--
¡BEEP! ¡BEEP! ¡BEEP!
¿QUÉ PASA?
ES MI MADRE...

PAPÁ, ESTOY--
NADA DE ESO IMPORTA AHORA. TU MADRE... NO LE QUEDA MUCHO... SU TIEMPO ESTÁ CERCA.
T-T-TERRA--
NO TE ESFUERCES, MAMÁ. AQUÍ ESTOY...
SU RITMO CARDIACO SE ACELERA.
TAN... ORGULLOSA DE...
...TI...

¡MAMÁ!
WOW.
SUPONGO QUE SOY ESENCIALMENTE INMORTAL.
RADI-CAL.

LAS COSAS CRECERÁN AQUÍ AHORA.
ANTES QUE LAS PROVISIONES QUE DEJAMOS SE ACABEN-- TENDRÁN MÁS COMIDA DE LA QUE PUEDAN COMER. AHORA SU GENTE NO TIENE RAZÓN PARA PELEAR.
CUANDO REGRESEMOS, ESPERAMOS REGRESAR A UN MUNDO DE PAZ.
LLEGAMOS CIEN AÑOS TARDE. LAS TRANSMISIONES QUE DETECTAMOS ERAN MÁS VIEJAS DE LO QUE CREÍMOS.
ERAN BUENA GENTE, SOLO PERDIERON SU RUMBO. SE ENFOCARON EN LA AVARICIA. LAS MASAS ADORARON A LOS POCOS QUE CONSIGUIERON AMASAR LA MAYOR RIQUEZA MATERIAL A EXPENSAS DE SU ECOSISTEMA, CON LA ESPERANZA DE QUE EVENTUALMENTE PUDIERAN HACER LO MISMO.
SEGURAMENTE, VIERON LO QUE ESTABA PASANDO... SEGURAMENTE LO SUPIERON.
ESTOS LENTES TERMALES NOS PERMITEN VERLOS, PERO ELLOS NO PUEDEN VERNOS. ASÍ QUE TEN CUIDADO, TERRA, NO QUEREMOS ALARMAR A ESTA GENTE.
ESTO ES MUY RARO, PAPÁ.
LA COMPOSICIÓN QUÍMICA DE LA POLUCIÓN EN SU ATMÓSFERA ESTÁ FILTRANDO SU LUZ ESTELAR EN UN ESPECTRO INVISIBLE.
UNA VEZ QUE LO ARREGLEMOS... ESTAS PERSONAS SE VERÁN ENTRE ELLAS POR PRIMERA VEZ EN UNA GENERACIÓN. NO SÉ CÓMO SE LAS ARREGLARON PARA SOBREVIVIR ASÍ. ES NOTABLE.
LOS DÍAS SON APROXIMADAMENTE DOS HORAS MÁS LARGAS, PERO LAS TEMPERATURAS SON IGUALES. TOMARÁ UN TIEMPO ACOSTUMBRARSE A LAS ESTACIONES... PERO ES CASI IGUAL A SU PLANETA NATAL.
LA PRINCIPAL DIFERENCIA ES QUE LA ESTRELLA QUE ORBITA ES COMPLETAMENTE SALUDABLE.
TU GENTE PROSPERARÁ AQUÍ.

LO SIENTO-- VINE TAN RÁPIDO COMO PUDE.
QUE-- ¡¿ESE ES MARKUS?!
YA SE TERMINÓ. NO TE METAS O SOLO EMPEORARÁS LAS COSAS.
TE ADORABA.
ME ESFORCÉ, LUCHÉ TAN DURO COMO PUDE, PORQUE QUERÍA HONRAR... TU LEGADO.
LAMENTO HABER PUESTO ESE TIPO DE PRESIÓN SOBRE TI. NO FUE JUSTO. NO SABÍA...
ME DEJASTE EN LA TIERRA.
SOLO ME DEJASTE.
MIENTRAS MÁS TE EXTRAÑABA, MÁS IMPORTANTE SE VOLVÍA LO QUE ESTABAS HACIENDO... ESTABAS SALVANDO AL UNIVERSO.
TE ADORABA HASTA QUE LA ADORACIÓN SE VOLVIÓ ODIO.

PENSÉ QUE ME ODIABAS A CAUSA DE CÓMO FUI CONCEBIDO.
SIEMPRE AMASTE MÁS A TERRA... ELLA... PUDO VIVIR CONTIGO.
ME ODIÉ... PORQUE NO ERA TAN BUENO. SOLÍA PENSAR... QUE HICISTE A TERRA CON AMOR... PERO YO FUI HECHO CON ODIO.
MI MADRE... ME... ME CONDENÓ A SER ASÍ... A SER MENOS... A SER... MALO.
NO ERES MALO. LAMENTO ABANDONARTE. PIENSO, EN LO PROFUNDO, SOLO QUERÍA QUE VIVIERAS LA MISMA VIDA QUE YO, EN LA TIERRA. MARKUS, HAS... HAS HECHO MUCHÍSIMO BIEN PARA EL SISTEMA DE PLANETAS DE LA TIERRA. ME HAS SOBREPASADO EN MUCHAS FORMAS.
ESTOY ORGU-LLOSO DE TI.
ESTO SOLO FUE UN MALENTENDIDO.
ESTABA TAN FURIOSO... ME PERDÍ... PERDÍ EL CONTROL.
PAPÁ... YO...
PODRÍA HABERTE MATADO.
¿CÓMO VOLVEMOS DE ESO?
CON ALGO DE LO QUE TENEMOS CASI UN SUMINISTRO ILIMITADO, HIJO.
TIEMPO.

NUESTROS AMOS CREEN QUE UNA PELEA ENTRE NOSOTROS TRAERÁ PAZ ENTRE NUESTRA GENTE.
ES UNA PENA QUE TENGAS QUE MORIR POR SU ESTUPIDEZ.
CÁLLATE Y GOLPÉAME DE UNA VEZ.
¡GRAHH!
¡THOOM!

¡WRAMM!
¡WHUDD!

¡NO, NO!
¡ESTO ES IMPOSIBLE!
SU CAMPEONA ES TAN PEQUEÑA...
DEBES TERMINAR SU VERGÜENZA Y TOMAR SU VIDA. ES NECESARIO.
NO.
¿¡QUÉ?! ¿¡LE PERMITE VIVIR EN VERGÜENZA?!
¡ES UN ULTRAJE!
¡SI QUIEREN PAZ ENTRE NUESTRA GENTE, SEGUIRÁN NUESTRAS COSTUMBRES Y ORDENARÁN A SU CAMPEONA QUE LO MATE DE UNA VEZ!
SI QUIEREN LA PROTECCIÓN Y LA GUÍA DEL IMPERIO VILTRUMITA, TENDRÁN QUE ADAPTARSE A LAS NUESTRAS.
TODA VIDA ES SAGRADA. LUCHAMOS POR TRAER PAZ Y PROSPERIDAD A TODAS LAS PERSONAS EN TODOS LOS ALCANCES DEL UNIVERSO.
¡¿PAZ?!
¡ESTO ES LO QUE PENSAMOS DE LA PAZ!

¡¡SKRASSH!!
ES... ¿ES TAN FUERTE COMO SU CAMPEONA?
TODOS LO SOMOS.

¿TODOS?
¿TODOS USTEDES TIENEN ESTA FUERZA? ¿CÓMO PUEDE SER? CON SEMEJANTE PODER, PUEDEN CONQUISTAR EL UNIVERSO CONOCIDO CON FACILIDAD.
PODRÍAN DOMINAR TODO LO VIVO... Y AÚN ASÍ... NO SOLO NO LO HAN HECHO, SINO QUE NOS HAN TRATADO COMO IGUALES CUANDO SIMPLEMENTE PODRÍAN CONQUISTARNOS Y ORDENARNOS HACER SU VOLUNTAD.
DISCULPAS POR LA FALTA DE RESPETO QUE HE MOSTRADO. POR FAVOR... POR FAVOR NO MATEN A MI FAMILIA, PERDÓNENLOS...
...SOLO MÁTENME A MÍ.
SU MAJESTAD, POR FAVOR. PÁRESE. ESTO ES INNECESARIO. NO VOY A MATARLO.
ERAS ATRÁS, MI GENTE ERAN CONQUISTADORES. NUESTRA IRA Y FURIA NOS LLEVÓ A ESCLAVIZAR PLANETA TRAS PLANETA MIENTRAS CONSTRUÍAMOS UN IMPERIO DE MIEDO Y MISERIA.
PERO MEJORAMOS. RECHAZAMOS NUESTRA FURIA Y NOS PROPUSIMOS USAR NUESTRA FUERZA PARA EL BIEN DE TODOS.
SOLO QUEREMOS TRABAJAR JUNTO A USTEDES PARA MEJORAR LAS VIDAS DE USTED Y SU GENTE.
YO LO HE ATACADO... DESEABA TERMINAR CON SU VIDA. LE FALTÉ EL RESPETO... Y ESCUPÍ EN LA CARA DE SU VOLUNTAD... ¿Y AÚN ASÍ NO TOMARÁ REPRESALIAS?
¿AÚN OFRECE PAZ? ¿AÚN ME HABLA COMO UN AMIGO?
TIENE TODO DERECHO DE GOLPEARME, Y AÚN ASÍ ME PERDONA COMO SU HIJA PERDONÓ A MI CAMPEÓN...

SÍ.
ASÍ ES LA COSTUMBRE VILTRUMITA.

LO HICISTE.
¿QUÉ?
HICISTE TODO LO QUE TU PADRE TE PIDIÓ.
CAMBIASTE A LOS VILTRUMITAS. LOS CONVERTISTE EN UNA FUERZA DEL BIEN, CELEBRADA A TRAVÉS DEL UNIVERSO.

HE ESTADO PENSANDO MUCHO EN EL PASADO ÚLTIMAMENTE, Y... UNA COSA SIGUE VOLVIENDO. HAY TANTAS... HAY TANTAS COSAS QUE ME RECUERDAN A ALGO QUE MI PADRE UNA VEZ ME DIJO.
FUE DURANTE NUESTRA GRAN PELEA... ME MIRO Y ME DIJO...
"¿QUÉ TENDRÁS DESPUÉS DE QUINIENTOS AÑOS?"
HEH.

And there you have it, the end of INVINCIBLE. I hope it was everything everyone wanted. I know I'm satisfied with where we ended up.

When we started this series FIFTEEN years ago, I had high hopes that it would last a good, long time and be a memorable series, but I never could have imagined a fifteen-year, one hundred and forty-four issue run! You may not know this, but there was a time I was pretty sure issue #13 was going to be the last issue. Then, miraculously, sales on issue #12 spiked up a teeny tiny bit, and sales continued to spike until the book was healthy, and we were able to go as long as we wanted... which is, sadly, until now.

This series is everything I've ever loved about superhero comics crammed into one series. I think it's fulfilled that promise, and while there's certainly other things I love about superhero comics, I think our story is told. Mark Grayson radically changed his alien race from a warring scourge of the galaxy to the saviors of the galaxy. His story is told. His mission, that he didn't even fully realize he was on, has been completed... and he got to live happily ever after.

I wonder how many of you thought this series would end with everyone dying a horrible death?

It's been such a gift to be able to write this series for this long, to be allowed to explore this world fully, dig into these characters, and, y'know... torture them for as long as we have. I thank you for the YEARS of support you've given us. We could never have done this without you. This series is a dream come true for me, and I will never be able to thank you properly for allowing me to do it.

I want to thank Ryan and Cory for joining me on this journey. Cory, even though he didn't draw all the issues, was a continued presence, helping to guide things by designing new characters here and there, and griping at me when he didn't like where the story was going or whatever dumb thing I'd told him I was planning. Ryan has been the heart and soul of this book since issue #8. While I've spent the better part of a week out of every month writing scripts for this series... Ryan has been chained to a table slaving away non-stop for that entire time! He still managed to squeeze in some Haunt, a DC annual, Space Grub, Grizzly Shark, a bunch of covers, and a few odds and ends in that time. It's been remarkable seeing him grow into one of the best artists in comics in that time. This book would never have survived without Ryan pulling all of our weight.

I want to thank Cliff Rathburn for pitching in on inks for more than half of Ryan's issues. Cliff has long been my secret weapon, working on all kinds of Skybound books. Is it okay to reveal that Cliff will be working with Ryan on the project he has lined up for after this? I'm excited about it! It's going to be amazing! Also, big thanks to Mark Morales and Dexter Vines for helping out during this final run.

I want to thank the elite team of colorists who brought us here. Bill Crabtree, FCO Plascencia, Nikos Koutis, John Rauch, Jean-Francois Beaulieu and Nathan Fairbairn! Each one brought their own style and take to these characters, and kept the book looking fresh and new as we marched through the years.

Rus Wooton! He's lettered this book since I threw in the towel after issue #13. (Lettering is hard, people.) It's a thankless job that doesn't get a lot of attention in comics, but it's oh-so essential, and Rus has become one of the best of the best in his field. You see his name in almost every great comic being published today. Thanks for lending your talents to this book for so long, Rus!

I'd like to thank Aubrey Sitterson, Sina Grace and, of course, the esteemed Mr. Sean Mackiewicz for stepping into the editor role when I got too big and important to keep track of all the behind the scenes stuff, and keeping the trains running on time. We definitely would have never made it this far without them.

Huge thanks to Eric Stephenson, Jim Valentino and Erik Larsen for helping this book land at Image Comics, giving it the platform it's had, and also for a ton of help and advice along the way. Jim Valentino, when I told him Omni-Man was going to kill the Guardians of the Globe in issue #25 and reveal that he's a bad guy, responded, "Move that up or there's not going to be an issue #25!" And when I told him I might be able to push it to issue #12, said, "Can you get it in issue #5?" And that got me to put it in issue #7. The series DEFINITELY wouldn't have made it to issue #25 if he hadn't done that. Thanks, Jim!

Erik Larsen deserves to be called out separately, as my love for Savage Dragon could be pointed to as my main source of inspiration for this comic. So, if you're reading this and haven't read that series, fix that! Erik also helped out with cover designs in the early days and talked me off a ledge or two more than once. He's been a great mentor, and if you're struggling to break into comics, he's a good friend to have.

Eric Stephenson remains, to this day, the best advocate for new ideas in comics. He championed this book from day one, and was also instrumental in helping a little-known zombie series find its audience. It's no wonder he's risen through the ranks to become the best publisher Image Comics has ever had.

Lastly, I'll thank David Alpert, my Skybound partner. He's been there since damn near day one, always pushing me to not suck. Without him, you wouldn't have all the cool upcoming INVINCIBLE non-comics stuff... like the movie we're currently developing at Universal with Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg... or all the other

stuff we haven't announced yet. This comic is most certainly NOT the end.

Also, a huge thank you to all the other people who got us here, but didn't leave enough of an impression (heh!) to get a thank you here in this letters column! I still love you. It was just an oversight. If it makes you feel better, you're one of the only people actually reading this.

*If for any reason you ARE still reading this... let's dive right into the FINAL letters column... EVER... (*sob!*)*

____

I've been reading Invincible since issue #1 and it's been an amazing trip. I wanted to say thanks to everyone who worked on the book. Like a lot of people the US Pentagon "Parking in Rear" gag has always made me laugh. It made me laugh even more when I got a job in the building and realized how terrible parking there actually is! A copy of the "Parking" panel hung in my cube for 6 years and got laughs and grins from a lot of folks.

Thanks for the memories.
Philip Shade

It's taken one hundred and fourty-four issues to receive a letter about the Pentagon parking situation, and I couldn't be happier. (Actually, more than one hundred and fourty-four; Robert reminded me that the Pentagon first started showing up in BRIT. So, check out BRIT for more Pentagon shenanigans.)

Please check out BRIT! Volumes 1-3 are all in print and totally orderable. In fact, now that this series has ended, there're tons of other superhero comics that take place in the Invincible Universe that you can try. CAPES, BRIT, GUARDING THE GLOBE, INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE, TECH JACKET and THE ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN are all worth a look. You loved them when they appeared in this series--now read their actual books!

____

Dear Robert and Invincible,

So, I guess I've been reading Invincible for over a decade now? I think Bill Crabtree gave me copies of the first two Ultimate Invincible books at San Diego Comic Con in 2006. I didn't know the guy, and had never heard of the book, but he just walked up to my table and was like "I color this book and I want you to have it" and then ran off. This covered the first big storyline of Invincible being betrayed by his dad and stuff. Anyhow, I didn't really expect that much (sorry!) but I was totally blown away. I've bought the monthly issues at my local comics shop ever since, and I've really really enjoyed following all the characters through all the wild twists and turns of their adventures across the universe and multiple dimensions. And the action and art, wow.

I really don't think there's any other contemporary comic book that even compares. In every interview I've done for the past decade, the interviewer invariably asks what other comics I read, and my go-to-answer has always been INVINCIBLE. Now what am I going to say? Some other book that's not as good as Invincible? And I can't even leaf through back issues and reminisce because I've given all of them away over the years in my attempts to turn people on to your awesome book.

Also, thanks for being cool to me when I was late to the Eisners and missed the part where I won. Thanks for bringing me up on the stage even though it was past my turn, and letting me make a speech, even though I was obviously a total ass for being late.

Anyhow, what else is there to say? Thank you so much for creating Invincible. Reading it has been an amazing experience, and I'll never forget it.

best wishes,
James Kochalka

P.S. Here's a Johnny Boo & Invincible mash-up/fan art.

Holy crap, James! Thanks so much for writing in, and that art is AWESOME! I've been a fan of yours for years. I know Ryan and I have often talked about how cool Super F*ckers *is! (It's a great comic you should check out!) Also, look out for* Mechaboys*, James's newest book coming out in March!*

I love *Super F*ckers*. Jack Krak is the motherf*cker.

____

Hey guys,

Lucas from Australia here. Love the comic, it's a shame it's coming to an end already. I just wanted to ask two things.

1) Were any story threads you had planned, but either dropped, or decided to go in a different direction, or just forgot about? With all the backstory stuff about Bulletproof a little while back, it really felt like you were going to do more with this character.

I'll tease one idea we almost repurposed for INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE: Why haven't we ever seen anyone with telepathic abilities?

Heh... yeah, that was a weird oversight. I was planning on doing something with the janitor that saw Mark and Eve changing into their costumes... but when I set that up, I'd forgotten I was going to have them leaving high school in a few issues!

2) What's the plan after all this is over? A new Kirkman series? Are you ever going to come back to this universe, after a few years? (After issue 142, I had a thought of a future were Terra and Marky fight over who deserves to be Viltrumite emperor).

While we should be celebrating INVINCIBLE, this would be as good a time as any to remind you that Robert's new comic, OBLIVION SONG, with artist Lorenzo De Felici, hits stores in three weeks—March 7th!

The sales pitch: If you've read this much of INVINCIBLE, you're going to like it. Trust us.

Thanks for all the fun times I've had with this series! Can't wait to see what you do next!

PS - I'm an Australian! Hi from Australia!

Lucas Dew

Thanks for writing, Lucas. After this, we're all doing new stuff. Ryan's new project hasn't been announced yet, but it's going to be spectacular. I've got OBLIVION SONG like Sean mentioned. Cory is working on a secret project that won't be out for a while, so forget I said anything. There's going to be plenty of new stuff from Team Invincible that you can enjoy!

____

Robert and Co.,

It's been a while since I've wrote in. I have to admit, I've been a bit miffed at this book of late but I've come to realize/accept that a lot of my negative feelings toward "Invincible" the past year or so is because I knew, deep down, that the series was nearing it's end... and I hated y'all for it.

I saw the writing on the wall before the news broke - and yeah, I was pissed. I was DISAPPOINTED that my favorite superhero epic was coming to, what I felt, was a premature conclusion. I started to blame the success of "The Walking Dead" for "distracting" you, Robert. I convinced myself that you chose the money train over loyalty to your BEST WORK (my opinion) and that you simply wanted to tidy shit up and be done with it. I know I had no basis for this - this is YOUR story, of course you will do whatever you want with it - and I know you not at all. Even still - I felt that there was too much left undone. I keep waiting and waiting for the adventures of issue #54 to come back around again SOMEHOW (anyone else out there remember THAT gem?) and after so much time had passed without so much as a casual reference I figured it was forgotten. You were done with this universe. Time to move on.

ROBOT WAR! Part One of One (nice, by the way) is the first issue in a LONG TIME that I truly LOVED. Loose ends were tied up, long time conflicts and alliances came back to the forefront and all at once the "Invincible" I first experienced in the Fall of 2006 was once again in my hands blowing me away... and now, there are only two left.

This book grabbed me right away back when I first read the trades. It reminded me so much of "Savage Dragon" with the self contained universe and seemingly endless array of ancillary yet INTERESTING characters that I grew to look forward to "Invincible" more than any other Image book every month. History will likely paint "The Walking Dead" as your Magnum Opus - and perhaps it is - but for me "Invincible" was ALWAYS better. I will miss it when it is gone.

This last run has been pretty good all in all (so far) and I applaud you for it. The A Game has been brought for The Endgame and y'all are definitely going out guns a BLAZIN. Thanks for the YEARS of great stories, I look forward to how it all wraps up... but we already know, don't we?

Issue #54. You knew all along, didn't you Robert?

Well played.

See you on the Flip Side,
Cam Stylez

Nice to hear from you again, Cam. Issue #54 definitely should be re-read to take the full impact of The Robot War into account. Poor Immortal…

And yeah... I really struggled with tying into issue #54 MORE in the latter half of this issue. Have Mark mention Immortal was going to be losing his mind soon, something like that… But in the end, I thought it would just clutter things up, and we were doing so many little time jumps, you can just assume it was taken care of in some fashion. FUN FACT: To keep from changing the events in issue #54 as we saw them, my thinking is that Mark believed that having Robot's brain HELPING Immortal meant that Immortal would NOT lose his mind. Because Robot's presence wasn't known to him at the time, he didn't think he was there. BUT HE WAS there and Immortal was driven crazy BY Robot in an attempt to take over (yes, Robot's brain is preserved and lives for a good long time as well), so everything would happen as we saw it, and Old Mark would return to Earth eventually to find that Robot's brain had taken over... or something.

____

Dear Invincible Team,

First I just want to say thank you again for putting out the best superhero comic in the universe! I've been searching for a comic to replace you guys when the run is over, but so far nothing is catching me as well as you guys did. I'm holding out that the final issue you guys announce some sort of spin-off.

Nope. Not a hoax! By the time you're reading this, we're having our release day taco party, eating waaaay better tacos than that place in San Antonio that's been ripping off INVINCIBLE art for years. Suck it, Tacos El Regio!

Second, Mark has not learned a single thing! Does he not remember what he had to do to the Immortal in the future?? I have a feeling Robot's brain was the real source of the Immortal's tyranny.

(Heh... see above. Nicely done.)

Third, there's an episode of Sesame Street where someone is dressed up as Invincible in the background. Season 45 episode 4. You guys made it to PBS!

When they did a WALKING DEAD parody, I was stunned… but this… this revelation has me reeling. Why is Mike Chan the first to tell us?! This episode is like four years old. In that time, I've had a child that's old enough to request Elmo's Greatest Hits nonstop, and now I have a favorite song (or three).

I demand someone find a screenshot of this!!!!

And last but not least, thank you all again for this comic. I am grateful beyond words for what this comic has brought in to my life. I'm not sure if this will make it in the last issue, but on behalf of all my friends that I nagged to read this, and when they did, fell in love with this book, we thank you guys for this wonderful world you gave us.

Sincerely,
Mike Chan

Thanks for spreading the word, Mike! We never could have gotten here without you!

____

Robert the Kirk,

I have some questions! Will you miss Invincible, doing the series? I suppose that was Mark Grayson/ Invincible on the cover hugging Atom Eve; I thought at first from the hair it might have been a rare appearance by the African-American Invincible from some years ago! It has been years, hasn't it?

Bulletproof showed up in #142, getting the snot knocked out of him by Eve! What, he needs a costume to be recognizable?

15 years of Invincible-ing!! Do you really think that the series and it's characters will really just Go Away after all that? I suppose, worst case scenario, Invincible might turn evil--he is Emperor now, after all--and the way between him and his followers and the rest of the Invincible Universe of characters may well destroy the Earth and everything on it...in fact, that might happen anyway; only one issue left, right? But you've probably already completed it, so I guess I'm just guessing here. I'm not making much sense, am I?

Even compared to most of your letters… no. Have you considered hanging it up at the same time as INVINCIBLE? That would be a perfectly perplexing way to go out, man. Very in-character.

I think you'll find it harder to walk away than you think; Fables has had 2 or 3 series since the OG series ended, although none now; and Mike Mignola was supposed to end BPRD, but that came back (at least for a while). Why did Marky have a shark T-shirt on the cover...and not in the issue? The cover is more important? Maybe just another of your Lying covers, huh? Usually final issue finales are kind of, well... really underwhelming (even BPRD Hell on Earth); but what you've said, "Nothing can prepare you", is quite exciting! Don't forget to bring it. I'll be reading.

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

PS The main thing I liked about the series over the years? It's just easy to read!! And fun.

Thanks, Andrew, for being along for the ride almost the whole time. I love you as much as you annoy Sean. Connected? Maybe. As to whether or not we'll miss it, I think we all will. Speaking for myself, I finished my work on issue #144 in early November... and it's been weird the last couple months not having to write a script. The ideas certainly haven't stopped. While there are currently NO PLANS to return to this series in comic form... it's not impossible that we might see an issue #145 for the 20th anniversary. WHO KNOWS?!

____

Dear Penvincipals,

Oh crapcicles! I'm too late, aren't I? I just read the penultimate issue and realized that I have "two" unanswered questions that probably won't be answered in the comic itself. So I'mma send you this letter as quickly as possible with the faintest hope that it reaches you before you publish the final issue!

Question #1: Why'd you have to rush everything?! Seriously, Mark's inauguration ceremony was a single splash, and then bang -- we've moved on to the next plot point at Nolan's grave. We didn't even hear him say anything. It all happened off panel! And it feels like that's what's been going on more and more these last few issues. Robot War was just ONE issue, but it EASILY could have been two or more without any dragging moments. It just seems like we're being short-changed the full story for the sake of ending it by #144 and fitting it into three tidy compendiums. I mean, I get it, but I don't like it. Too much breadth; not enough depth.

I guess the same could be said for this issue, which was designed to jump around for the most important pieces of time wrapping up this series. COULD we have expanded Robot War into two, six, or even twelve issues? Sure... but would it have been a retread of other big stories? Kind of. I just showed you the interesting part. As for Mark's coronation as emperor... you saw what was interesting. What would we have gotten from a speech where he just repeated his intent as inspired by Nolan that he'd already voiced to Eve? After one hundred and fourty-four issues... give me a little trust. If it's important... you saw it. Except for all the cool stuff Angstrom Jr. and Chainsaw are going to do. That stuff just lives in my head!

Question #2: Okay, here's the more important question. What has prompted the changes in the taglines over the course of the series? What do they all mean!? When we started, you guys had that "Girls, acne, etc." tag. Then you wised up and changed it to "Probably the best superhero comic in the universe." Then you knock off the "Probably" at Issue 70.5, but after that it just got weird. First you change it to the "Only Superhero Comic You Will Ever Need," then change back it to "The Best Superhero Comic In the Universe," then cross off the "Superhero," and then add it back on again. It's all so confusing. WHAT AM I ACTUALLY READING? I just don't know anymore.

It first changed after he left high school, and that tagline didn't seem to apply. THEN we dropped the "probably" because I thought it would be funny, like suddenly we

were definitively the best. The "Only Superhero Comic You Need" was Eric Stephenson's suggestion, and was meant to target Marvel and DC readers who were fed up with those books, but still loved superheroes. We brought back the original tagline and crossed out "superhero" during the time Invincible was in space with Eve, not being a superhero. It came back when he started wearing the costume again! It's all pretty self-explanatory!

Question #4: When is Universa returning?

This issue—hope you didn't miss her!

I swear I really didn't intend for her to show up when I made the comments in the letters columns about her showing up. Cory always wanted to draw her in the comics because he designed her, but has never drawn her in the book. So I thought it'd be cool to throw her on that splash page and say she was working with the Coalition of Planets.

Question #5: What happened to question number three?

Who cares?

All right, I'mma take my letter hacking back over to The Walking Dead now (what's up with those Stormtroopers, anyway?)

Cheers & Tears,
Wesley Rice

They look nothing like Stormtroopers!

Hey Robert and crew!

Congratulations on a long and exciting run with Invincible... With one issue left before we leave the Invincible universe, I wanted to ask you... What ever happened to Wolf-Man? Is he still off fighting crime with WolfCorps? To this day he continues to be my favorite superhero, and I hope that one day we can see him go on another adventure...

Dakota Boles

He may someday come back. But for now... he's off fighting crime with the WolfCorps. We saw him a little in issue... #130. (I'm just guessing; he was in a panel around then.)

Hello Robert and Sean,

So Invincible is ending, and with it my minor claim to comic book fame. Back in the early 2000s I hung around the Savage Dragon message board, where one poster kept pimping his Battle Pope comic. When word came out this guy would be doing a Super Patriot comic with Cory Walker, I decided it was time to check out his work.

Shortly after that, the duo came out with their own original comic, Invincible. I answered the call for a letters page name and because I assume I was the only person to submit, my idea, Penvincipals, was chosen. For more than a decade, I've gotten a little thrill every month, seeing my "work" in a professionally published comic.

Also, thanks for the Captain America head sketch as my prize at Wizard World 2004. I've still got it around here somewhere.

So congratulations, Mr. Kirkman, from a fellow fin-addict. I'll be sad not to get that Penvincipals rush every month, but I'll see if I can come up with a good name for any of your future comics.

Your Penvincipal,

Joe Lawler

This just feels like the right letter to go out on, doesn't it?

DEFINITELY! Thanks for the awesome suggestion, Joe! Most of the other suggestions (there were a bunch actually) were along the lines of "INVINCIMAIL", and yours was weird and funny, so I thought it was the way to go. AND IT'S BEEN USED FOR FIFTEEN YEARS! How cool is that?

Man, this is the best letters column ever. James Kolchalka, Pentagon guy, Andrew J. Shaw, Joe Lawler coming back out of nowhere! This is awesome!

I can see it in your eyes: what are you supposed to do NOW? Well, the final Ultimate Collection hardcover comes out in May, and then the final compendium will be out in July... so if you absolutely have to spend your money on us, those are two fine options. In March, you'll have a companion to go with your Invincible action figure—and we'll be filling out their ranks later this year, for sure. So while the comic is over, we are far from done living in the Invincible Universe.

Thank you for writing, Penvincipals. Thank you, Robert, Ryan and Cory for allowing me to be part of The Best Superhero Comic in the Universe. This was my 50th issue of INVINCIBLE to have worked on. I'll miss it.

-Sean Mackiewicz

Holy crap, really?! That's amazing, Sean. I had no idea!

Anyway, there's nothing really to add that I haven't said already... keep an eye out for more Invincible in some very cool forms... and I find myself... typing words... just so this... doesn't have to end... but that can't last... forever... so...

I'll miss you all.

-Robert Kirkman

You can still write us at
INVINCIBLE@SKYBOUND.COM,
we just won't print it...
or personally respond, unless it's really, really good.

WHY CAN'T SHE BE ENOUGH?

Nathan never would have found Heather if it weren't for the Transference. When he was brought in by the government to help figure out what had happened, she was his direct contact. They spent hours together, strategizing on how to convince her bosses to provide more time and funding for his research. After many months without a breakthrough, there were times when his work was nearly shut down. But together they persevered, so when Nathan's belt technology showed he could pass safely between dimensions, and rescue teams were being formed, it was a win for both of them.

Ironically, it was Heather who was able to talk her bosses into allowing Nathan to lead the rescue teams. He'd already spent so much time in Oblivion testing the technology. He knew more about the area than almost anyone. It wasn't until his first day of leave, in the middle of boot camp, that they first became intimate. They were both taken off-guard by the fact that neither of them saw it coming.

Their relationship began at the worst possible time. Nathan was part of the rescue mission, dropping into Oblivion, tracking down those lost there, bringing them home. It was more than a full-time job, that left no room for anything else. As time went on, they found fewer and fewer people. Eventually, after a dry spell of more than three months where no one was rescued, the program was permanently shut down.

A chapter in Nathan's life was closed, or rather, it should have been. He'd done all he could, they'd rescued... most... of the people lost in Oblivion... but most wasn't enough. Not when Nathan's own brother, Edward Cole, was counted among the lost. Despite Nathan's love for Heather, Oblivion and those lost there are a shadow he can't get out from under.

Instead of settling down, putting all this behind him and marrying the woman he loved, Nathan became a fugitive, using his technology to illegally go into Oblivion and continue looking for those lost there. Now, every day, he leaves her, to risk his life traveling alone to Oblivion, searching for any sign of life, any hope he might save someone who knows something about his lost brother. Despite his love for Heather, he can't resist the siren call of the

OBLIVION SONG™

ROBERT KIRKMAN LORENZO DE FELICI

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